

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-16 are pending. Claim 1 is amended to include the subject matter of claims 2 and 4, with the additional change of 2,2-bis[4-(4-aminophenoxy)phenyl] hexafluoropropane to 2,2-bis(3-amino-4-hydroxyphenyl) hexafluoropropane. Support for the amendment to claim 1 may be found in the specification as originally filed, for example, in original claims 1, 2 and 4 and page 5, lines 9-10, and page 11, lines 1-2. The change of 2,2-bis[4-(4-aminophenoxy)phenyl] hexafluoropropane to 2,2-bis(3-amino-4-hydroxyphenyl) hexafluoropropane was also made in claim 16 and in the specification, pages 5 and 11.

The phrase "2, 2-bis [4-(4-amino-phenoxy) phenyl] hexafluoropropane" should correctly be "2, 2-bis (3-amino-4-hydroxyphenyl) hexafluoropropane". In the specification the identifier "[HOCF3AB]" follows the incorrect term. See page 5, lines 9-10. "2, 2-bis [4-(4-amino-phenoxy) phenyl] hexafluoropropane" is also repeated on page 5, lines 21-22 and correctly identified as "(HF-BAPP)". It is clear that one of the repeated phrases is in error. See also page 11, lines 1-2 and lines 13-14.

The other compounds listed on page 5, lines 6-10, are similar compounds grouped together. The other compounds listed on page 5, lines 6-10, have a chemical structure similar to a compound of 4, 4'-diamino-3,3'-dihydroxybiphenyl. The 4,4'-diamino-3, 3'-dihydroxybiphenyl is a product of Wakayama Seika, and is abbreviated as HOAB by Applicants. Attached is a product description from Wakayama Seika showing the structural formulae of 4,4'-diamino-3, 3'-dihydroxybiphenyl. 2, 2-bis (3-amino-4-hydroxyphenyl) hexafluoropropane is a compound having a similar chemical structure to HOAB but having a hydrogen atom of a methyl group of

the bisphenol A skeleton replaced with a fluorine atom has CF_3 , and is called HO CF3AB.

As described in lines 19 to 20 on page 29 of the specification, the above HO CF3AB is made by Central Glass Co., Ltd. Attached is a product description from Central Glass Co., Ltd. showing the structural formulae of 2, 2-bis (3-amino-4-hydroxyphenyl) hexafluoropropane.

It is also noted that the Examiner considers the term "2, 2-bis [4-(4-amino-phenoxy) phenyl] hexafluoropropane" to be an error in claim 4 in the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 discussed below.

The change from "2, 2-bis [4-(4-amino-phenoxy) phenyl] hexafluoropropane [HO CF3AB]" in Applicants' specification to "2,2-bis(3-amino-4-hydroxyphenyl) hexafluoropropane [HO CF3AB]" is a correction to an error that would be appreciated by one skilled in the art and the solution also appreciated. Such a change is not considered new matter. In re Oda, 443 F.2d 1200, 1206 (1971).

I. The Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 1, 2, 4, 8 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite.

Claim 1: The Examiner states that it is unclear if or how a polyimide comprising phenolic hydroxyl groups is derived from the "2,2-bis[4-(4-aminophenoxy)phenyl]hexafluoropropane" per claim 4. The subject matter of claim 4 has been combined with claim 1 including the change to "2,2-bis(3-amino-4-hydroxyphenyl) hexafluoropropane" discussed above.

Claim 8: The Examiner states that the recited solvents are not definitive of the solvent (ketone, ether or ester) genus. Claim 8 has been amended for clarity. See Applicants' specification, page 15, lines 2-4, that the compounds named in claim 8 are additives to the solvent, not examples of the ketone, ether or ester solvent.

Claim 16: The Examiner states that the Markush group defining the "second diamine" encompasses the same diamines defining the (first) diamine as per claim 4. Claim 16 has been split into two claims for clarity. Amended claim 4 covers the combinations of diamine deleted from amended claim 16.

For the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Applicants' claims are clear and definite and it is requested that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

II. The Art Rejections

Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8-12 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over US 6,025,461 (Chiang et al).

Claims 4, 7 and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over US6,025,461 (Chiang et al.) described hereinabove in view of US 6,630,064 (Itatani et al).

Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over US 6,627,377 (Itatani et al).

Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention is not anticipated by or obvious over the disclosures of Itatani et al or Chiang et al, alone or in view of Itatani et al, and request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw these rejections in view of the following remarks.

Applicants' claims have been amended to recite diamines having a phenolic hydroxyl group introduced in a main chain of polyimide. Thereby the composition is made soluble in alkaline aqueous solution. In this manner, it is clearly specified that a block copolymerization polyimide composition and photosensitive ink soluble in solvent have high resolving power.

In addition, N-methylpyrrolidone is deleted from solvents described in claims 8 and 14.

For the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of claims 1 and 3-16 is neither taught by nor made obvious from the disclosures of Itatani et al or Chiang et al, alone or in view of Itatani et al, and it is requested that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

III. Conclusion

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that their claimed invention is allowable and ask that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112 and the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103 be reconsidered and withdrawn. Applicants respectfully submit that this case is in condition for allowance and allowance is respectfully solicited.

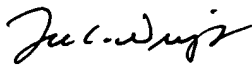
If any points remain at issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the local exchange number listed below.

Application No.: 10/501,452
Art Unit: 1711

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.114
Attorney Docket No.: 042586

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,
WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP



Lee C. Wright
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 41,441
Telephone: (202) 822-1100
Facsimile: (202) 822-1111

LCW/af